

Environmental Justice Advisory Committee Members

Martha Arguello

Ms. Arguello is an Environmental Health Coordinator for Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles (PSR-LA). She is also involved with Californians for Pesticide Reform and is a member of the Health Care Without Harm Coalition. PSR-LA's environmental goals are to improve public health by reducing environmental threats to health and to reduce health disparities resulting both from disproportionate exposure to environmental contamination and access to quality health care. PSR-LA also works to help build a strong environmental health and justice movement led by communities most impacted by contamination, and strengthened by strategic relationships between health, environmental, environmental justice advocates, and the medical community.

Jose Carmona

Mr. Carmona is a legislative advocate and policy coordinator with the Clean Power Campaign, a non-profit coalition of environmental, scientific and public interest groups, and renewable energy technology companies. The Clean Power Campaign promotes public policies which encourage increased reliance by utilities on sustainable energy strategies, including energy conservation, more efficient use of conventional fuels, and generation from clean, renewable sources such as geothermal, wind, or solar. The group has taken the lead in successful campaigns to enact legislation to establish procurement goals for renewable energy, to encourage development of clean energy resources, and to adopt strict targets for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Henry Clark

Dr. Clark has been the Executive Director of the West County Toxics Coalition (WCTC) for over 19 years. WCTC is a group whose goal is to form an organization of residents that empowers the community to fight toxic exposure, and to protect the environment, the health and safety of residents. The Coalition's work focuses on ensuring that the city, state and county implement environmental justice laws. Dr. Clark also serves on the Cal-EPA Environmental Justice Advisory Committee and previously served as the Co-Chair of the CALFED Environmental Justice Subcommittee.

Chione Flegal

Ms. Flegal is the Senior Program Manager at the Latino Issues Forum (LIF), a non-profit public policy and advocacy institute dedicated to advancing new and innovative solutions for a better, more equitable and prosperous society. LIF addresses public policy issues from the perspective of how they will affect the social and economic future of the Latino community.

Tom Frantz

Mr. Frantz, chair of the Mathematics Department at Wasco Union High School in the San Joaquin Valley, serves as President of the Association of Irrigated Residents. This organization is dedicated to ensure that laws and regulations are protective of health and environment. He also serves as a member on the Center on Race Poverty and the Environment's Advisory Board.

Bill Gallegos

Mr. Gallegos is the Executive Director of Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), an environmental health and justice non-profit organization that promotes clean air, clean water and the development of toxin-free communities. CBE provides the residents impacted by industrial pollution with the tools to inform, monitor, and transform their immediate environment.

Angela Johnson-Meszaros

Ms. Johnson-Meszaros is the Director of Policy and General Council for the California Environmental Rights Alliance, a public interest organization dedicated to achieving environmental justice and improving community health in California. Ms. Johnson-Meszaros previously served as a Research Associate with the University of Southern California's Center for Sustainable Cities where she worked on issues of environmental justice and public participation, and assessed the critical role of social justice in building sustainable cities. She has focused on environmental justice and community participation issues in the Los Angeles region since 1994 working on a range of environmental issues including childhood lead poisoning, siting of hazardous waste facilities, the adverse impacts of freeways, and the importance of neighborhood parks for building strong communities.

Avinash Kar

Mr. Kar is a Staff Attorney and point person on global warming issues with the Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment, an environmental justice litigation organization dedicated to helping grassroots groups across the United States address the disproportionate burden of pollution borne by poor people and people of color. Mr. Kar's focus is on air pollution and air quality, particularly with respect to livestock operations.

Diane Takvorian

Ms. Takvorian is the Founder and Executive Director of the Environmental Health Coalition (EHC), a group dedicated to achieving environmental and social justice.

She also serves on Cal/EPA's Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice and has been a long time leader in advocating for environmental justice and building livable communities in the San Diego area. Ms. Takvorian worked closely with ARB on the uncovering of chromium pollution issues in the Barrio Logan area of San Diego.

Jane Williams

Ms. Williams serves as the Executive Director of California Communities Against Toxics (CCAT), a network of local environmental justice groups in California, working to protect communities from industrial pollutants. CCAT advocates for environmental justice, pollution prevention, and world peace. Ms. Williams has worked extensively on environmental health and justice issues since 1992. She assists local groups and Native Nations on pollution-related issues and policy advocacy at both the state and national level. She chairs the Sierra Club's National Air Toxics Task Force and serves on numerous Boards and Advisory Groups for environmental justice organizations.

Alternate At Large: Margaret Gordon

Ms. Gordon serves as the co-chair of the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project. She has worked extensively in the West Oakland area to improve the quality of life for residents by serving as an out spoken advocate for environmental and social justice. Recently, Ms. Gordon has focused on environmental justice issues related to good movement activities associated with the Port of Oakland.